UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	
	X
JOHN A. FERRANTO,	

Plaintiff,

Docket No.: 07 CIV 5986

-against-

**ANSWER** 

DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA and LIBERTY HARLEY-DAVIDSON, LLC a/k/a LIBERTY HARLEY DAVIDSON/BUELL,

Defendants.

Defendant, DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA, by her attorneys, WHITE FLEISCHNER & FINO, LLP, as and for her answer to the plaintiff's complaint, respectfully alleges:

# DEFENDANT'S RESPONSE TO JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. Denies knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief as to those allegations set forth in paragraphs numbered "1" and "3".
- 2. Denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs numbered "4", "5", and "6", and leaves all matters of law to the honorable court.

# <u>DEFENDANT'S RESPONSE TO</u> <u>JURY TRIAL</u>

3. Denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs numbered "7", and leaves all matters of law to the honorable court.

# DEFENDANT'S RESPONSE TO STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 4. Denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs numbered "14".
- 5. Denies knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief as to those

### <u>DEFENDANT'S RESPONSE TO</u> PLAINTIFF'S FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- 6. Defendant, DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA, repeats and reiterates each and every denial heretofore made in this answer to the paragraphs of the complaint designated "1" through "14" inclusive, with the same force and effect as if set forth here more particularly at length, all in response to the paragraph of the complaint designated "15".
- 7. Denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs numbered ""17", "18", "23", "24", "25", and "26".
- 8. Denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs numbered "16", "19", "20", "21" and "22", and leaves all matters of law to the honorable court.

## <u>DEFENDANT'S RESPONSE TO</u> <u>PLAINTIFF'S SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION</u>

- 9. Defendant, DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA, repeats and reiterates each and every denial heretofore made in this answer to the paragraphs of the complaint designated "1" through "26" inclusive, with the same force and effect as if set forth here more particularly at length, all in response to the paragraph of the complaint designated "27".
- 10. Denies knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief as to those allegations set forth in paragraphs numbered "28", "29", "30", "31", "32", "33", "34", "35", "37", "38", "39" and "40".
- 11. Denies each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs numbered "36", and leaves all matters of law to the honorable court.

## **DEFENDANT'S RESPONSE TO** PLAINTIFF'S THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

- Defendant, DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA, repeats and reiterates each 12. and every denial heretofore made in this answer to the paragraphs of the complaint designated "1" through "40" inclusive, with the same force and effect as if set forth here more particularly at length, all in response to the paragraph of the complaint designated "41".
- Denies knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief as to those 10. allegations set forth in paragraphs numbered "42", "43", "44", "45", "46", "47", "48", "49" and "50".

## DEFENDANT'S RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S DEMAND FOR JUDGMENT

Defendant denies all allegations contained in plaintiff's demand for judgment. 11.

### AS AND FOR A FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Pursuant to CPLR Article 16, the liability of defendant, DIANNE Y. 12. TIONGSON-ATIENZA, to the plaintiff herein for non-economic loss is limited to defendant's, DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA's, equitable share determined in accordance with the relative culpability of each person causing or contributing to the total liability for noneconomic loss.

#### AS AND FOR A SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

That by entering into the activity in which the plaintiff(s) was engaged at the 13. time of the occurrence set forth in the complaint, said plaintiff(s) knew the hazards thereof and the inherent risks incident thereto and had full knowledge of the dangers thereof; that whatever injuries and damages were sustained by the plaintiff(s) herein as alleged in the complaint arose from and were caused by reason of such risks voluntarily undertaken by the plaintiff(s) in his activities and such risks were assumed and accepted by him in performing and engaging in said activities.

#### AS AND FOR A THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

14. Plaintiff has recovered the costs of medical care, dental care, custodial care, rehabilitation services, loss of earnings and other economical loss and any future such loss or expense will, with reasonable certainty, be replaced or indemnified in whole or in part from collateral sources. Any award made to plaintiff shall be reduced in accordance with the provisions of CPLR 4545(c).

#### AS AND FOR A FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

15. Any damages sustained by the plaintiff were caused by the culpable conduct of the plaintiff, including contributory negligence, assumption of risks, breach of contract and not by the culpable conduct or negligence of this answering defendant. But if a verdict of judgment is awarded to the plaintiff, then and in that event the damages shall be reduced in the proportion which the culpable conduct attributable to the plaintiff bears to the culpable conduct which caused the damages.

#### AS AND FOR A FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

16. Whatever injuries and/or damages sustained by the plaintiff at the time and place alleged in the complaint, were due to the acts of parties over whom the defendant was not obligated to exercise any control or supervision.

### **AS AND FOR A SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

17. Plaintiff failed to mitigate damages.

#### AS AND FOR A SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

18. That plaintiff(s) does not have a "serious injury" as defined in §5102 and §5104

et. seq. of the New York Insurance Law and is therefore barred from maintaining this action.

#### AS AND FOR AN EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

19. That the defendant, DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA, exercised reasonable care in the operation of her vehicle.

## AS AND FOR A NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

That the plaintiff failed to use safety devices available to the plaintiff at the time 20. of the events alleged in the plaintiff's complaint and the plaintiff's failure to use such devices was negligent and was a cause in whole or in part of the injuries sustained by plaintiff.

### AS AND FOR A TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

21. That the plaintiff could with due diligence have obtained personal jurisdiction over tortfeasors not made parties to this lawsuit and thus the culpability of such missing or absent tortfeasors is to be apportioned into the total culpability allegedly causing the subject occurrence.

WHEREFORE, defendant, DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA, demands judgment dismissing the complaint herein together with the costs and disbursements of this action.

Dated: New York, New York December 4, 2007

Yours, etc.,

WHITE FLEISCHNER & FINO, LLP

By: (

DAMIEL M. STEWART (DS 7989)

Attorneys for Defendant

DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA

61 Broadway - 18th Floor New York, New York 10006

(212) 487-9700

TO: (See Attached Affidavit) Our File No.: 117-12900-D-PAF/DMS

STATE OF NEW YORK ) COUNTY OF NEW YORK ) ss:

Wendy Jantz, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That I am not a party to the within action, am over 18 years of age and reside in Staten Island, New York.

That on December 4, 2007, deponent served the within **ANSWER**, upon the attorneys and parties listed below by United States prepaid mail by placing same in a mailbox in the State of New York and by filing same via ECF:

TO:

Debora J. Dillon, Esq. The Law Firm of William G. Sayegh, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 65 Gleneida Avenue Carmel, New York 10512 (845) 228-4200

Patrick J. Fogarty, Esq. Fogarty, Felicione & Duffy, P.C. Attorneys for Defendant Liberty Harley-Davidson, LLC 185 Willis Avenue Mineola, New York 11501 (516) 747-7500

Sworn to before me this 4th day of December, 2007

DANIÈL M. STEWART
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 02ST5078049
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires May 19, 20

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DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA LIBERTY HARLEY-DAVIDSON, I a/k/a LIBERTY HARLEY DAVIDSO	LLC
Defend	ants.
	ANSWER
Attorneys for Defendant,	TE FLEISCHNER & FINO, LLP  DIANNE Y. TIONGSON-ATIENZA  61 BROADWAY  NEW YORK, N.Y. 10006  (212) 487-9700
To: Attorney(s) for	
Service of a copy of the within Dated:	is hereby admitted.
	Attorney(s) for
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE  that the within is a (certified) true entered in the office of the clerk of notice of entrry  that an Order of which the within one of the judges of the within na notice of settlement  Dated:	of the within named Court on  is a true copy will be presented for settlement to the Hon.

Attorneys for

WHITE FLEISCHNER & FINO, LLP

**61 BROADWAY NEW YORK, N.Y. 10006**